



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter –

Friday 21st April 2023

We love, we learn, we live.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you all had a lovely Easter break. Welcome back to Miss.O'Shea and Miss. Stoves, who have returned from their period of convalescing.

On Saturday 22nd April it is World Earth Day, an annual event to demonstrate support for environmental protection. As such, the children have spent time in school discussing Pope Francis' 'Laudato Si', a letter addressed to 'every person living on this planet' calling for a global dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet through our daily actions and decisions. The children watched the following video before discussing ways in which we can protect our common home:

<https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/laudato-si-for-children>

We have invited the children to help in creating a classroom display using drawing or photographs (as part of this week's homework) to show different aspects of the Pope Francis' letter and what they have learnt about World Earth Day; such as a scene of beauty from nature, a scene of pollution etc. Once children return their display work to school our Regenerators team will set about creating our very own Laudato Si' display in school. We look forward to seeing their finished creations!



Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Oakes

Sun Safety

We were lucky enough to be blessed with some lovely sunny weather this week. Please can children have sun cream applied before school, bringing a sunhat/cap and a bottle of water with them to school when sunny weather is forecast.

Strike Days

As you may be aware, the National Education Union has announced further intended strike days for its members on 27th April and 2nd May. St. Mary's is not impacted by these strike days and will be open as usual for pupils on these dates.

Kings Coronation

As you know, on 6th May 2023, the coronation of Charles III will take place. The coronation will be a historic occasion and will be the first coronation witnessed by the majority of the country's population.

Throughout the week leading up to the 6th the children will take part in a variety of coronation themed activities. On Thursday 4th May from 1.30-2.30pm we would like to invite parents and carers into school to take part in some coronation themed activities with your child(ren). Our week will culminate in a regal whole school coronation picnic on Friday 5th May, where each child will be presented with their own commemorative pin badge, a gift from the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust to mark the coronation of King Charles.

Arbor migration & pupil lunches

Following information sent out on the newsletter and a letter to parents via Weduc this week, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that with the new Arbor MIS system, it is no longer possible for children to swap between school dinners and packed lunch on a daily basis. If a child has school dinners/packed lunch on a Monday, they must remain on this for the duration of that school week. The office will require one weeks' notice for any changes to your child's school lunch pattern.

After the new system went live on Monday, we have been required to input the children's school meal pattern into Arbor, and this has been done based on the meal choice ordered on Tuesday 18th April. It is important that this pattern is correct, especially for the children in Year 3 and Year 4 who pay for lunches. Please telephone the office if you are wanting to change or confirm the meal pattern for your child. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

PE Uniform

Please can children attending school in PE kit on Mondays wear the school PE uniform:

- Navy polo shirt
- Navy PE shorts
- Navy PE socks
- Navy hoody top
- Plain navy jogging bottoms/leggings
 - Sports trainer

Also, a reminder that only plain studs should be worn in school, these must be removed for PE.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Club	Year group	Day/Time
Gardening Club	Years 1-4	Monday 3-4pm
Running Club	Year 2-4	Tuesday 8.15-8.45am
Football Club	Years 2	Tuesday 3-4pm
Prayer club	Years 1-4	Wednesday 8.15-8.45am
Eco Club	Regenerators Group	Wednesday 3-4pm

Extra-curricular clubs for this term start next week and are as follows:

Mission Statement Value Award Winners:

If you would like to celebrate your child's achievements out of school and would like us to give them a mention in Celebration Assembly on a Friday, then simply fill out one of the Mission Statement Value Cards that have been sent home with your child or ask for one at our school office. We love to hear about all the children's wonderful achievements, both in school and out!

Class			
Reception	Frankie H	Olivia W	Olivia C
Year 1	Ashton	Frankie	Luca
Year 2	Parker	Ella	Oli
Year 3	Ollie	Spencer	Alfie
Year 4	Eliza	George	Marshall

Attendance Ladder



This week's attendance winners-

Year - Reception

St. Mary's Class Attendance	
This Week:	
<u>Reception</u>	100%
<u>Year 1</u>	92.9%
<u>Year 2</u>	95.7%
<u>Year 3</u>	95.8%
<u>Year 4</u>	88.9%

Hexham book Festival

We are delighted to be taking part in [Hexham Book Festival 2023](#) and are looking forward to attending inspiring events. The cost of the event is **£2.00** per child which is payable online via WEDUC.

You have the opportunity to pre-order books at the special discounted price (30% off RRP) for your child to have signed on the day - to order a book please follow the links below.

- Ys 2/3/4 – Sara Ogilvie – Tuesday 25th April. We'll be joining the award-winning illustrator Sara Ogilvie for a fun filled Drawing Dogs event. We'll find out how she created some of her well-known canine characters, including Julia Donaldson's Detective Dog, and Biff from Dog's don't do Ballet. She will also be helping us to draw some handsome hounds and perky pooches of our own... WOOF! [ORDER BOOK HERE.](#)
- Reception and Y1 – Philip Ardagh – Friday 28th April. The marvellous Philip Ardagh will be introducing us to his latest bunny-tastic adventure and we'll experience thrilling, relentless anarchy and rhyming which the children are sure to love. [ORDER BOOK HERE.](#)

Year Four Residential

Thank you for supporting your child to take part in our year four residential trip to Moor House Adventure Centre. We would like to invite you to attend a short meeting on Wednesday 26th April at 3:15pm to find out more details about the trip and what your child will need to bring with them.

Imagine a story: Over the Spring term, Year 3 and 4 took part in a writing competition where there was the chance to have part of a story the children had written published in a book. We are delighted to announce that the children's chapter has been chosen to be published into the story. As part of the process, all children in year 3 and 4 have been invited to Tyne theatre and Opera House to watch a production of the short story. This will take place on Monday 3rd July more information will follow. In addition to this, all the children will receive a free copy of their book from the theatre with a chance for one child to introduce their chapter on stage.

Year 2, 3 & 4 Visit Hexham Book Festival	Tuesday 25th April
Year 4 Parent Meeting for Residential	Wednesday 26th April – 3:15pm
Reception & Y1 Visit Hexham Book Festival	Friday 28th April
May bank Holiday School Closed	Monday 1st May
Coronation Arts Open Day (Parents welcome)	Thursday 4th May 1.30pm-2.30pm
King's Coronation Bank Holiday School Closed	Monday 6th May
Year 1 Whole School Liturgical Prayer- Dedication to Mary (Parents welcome)	Friday 12th May-9.15am
Year 4 Moor House Residential	Thursday 18th & Friday 19th May
Y3 & Y4 Imagine A Story Theatre Visit	Monday 3rd July (PM Leave at 1pm may be later than 3pm returning to school-more info to follow nearer the time)
Imagine a story Theatre visit	Monday 3rd July 1pm

Dates for the diary

Safeguarding

Our e-safety focus in school during April & May is 'Privacy & Security'. Children will be made aware that internet use is never fully private and learn ways in which to keep personal information private whilst online. For help, advice and resources for parents/carers please take a look at: <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/privacy-identity/>

Pupil Support & Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs. Oakes

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Miss. Baird

Assistant safeguarding Lead: Mrs. Stoves

SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo: Mrs Dotchin & Mrs Stoves

Please remember that we are here to support you and your child at any time. You can contact us via the main office (01434 603 791) or by email (Info@smfs.bwcet.com)